



April 10, 2006

## **Boston man is sentenced to more than thirteen years in prison for helping to guard cocaine**

A federal judge has sentenced **Anthony Gobbi**, of Boston, to 160 months in prison for helping guard a purported shipment of 17 kilograms of cocaine. He was actually helping to guard fake cocaine for undercover FBI agents posing as drug traffickers.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith imposed on April 7 in U.S. District Court, Providence.

In October, a jury found Gobbi guilty of a cocaine trafficking conspiracy. Assistant U.S. Attorneys James H. Leavey and Adi Goldstein presented evidence to the jury that, in April 2001, Gobbi was one of two men sent by **Robert Nardolillo**, of Providence, to a Providence hotel to guard what was purported to be a 17-kilogram shipment of cocaine. Gobbi circled the hotel in a car while **Clifford T. Falla**, of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, armed with a pistol, remained in a room at the hotel where the "cocaine" was being temporarily stored.

The jury found Gobbi guilty of two charges: conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute more than five kilograms of cocaine and attempting to possess with intent to distribute more than five kilograms of cocaine. It found him not guilty of similar charges in connection with a second shipment of purported cocaine in August 2001 and not guilty of possessing a firearm in connection with a drug trafficking crime.

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In December, Judge Smith sentenced Nardolillo to 15 years in prison for his role in the conspiracy. Falla has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing.

The **Federal Bureau of Investigation**, the **Rhode Island State Police**, and **Providence Police** participated in the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Leavey and Goldstein are prosecuting the case.

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